

Glossary



band

A specific segment within a continuous range of wavelengths or frequencies such as those of electromagnetic radiation.

blue marble

A common term for the Apollo image of Earth and for similar, natural color images of the full disk of Earth taken from space.

browser

Computer software which allows one to access, read, and view World Wide Web pages that conform to the hypertext transfer protocol.

diorama

A three-dimensional model which tells a story or explains a concept.

electromagnetic radiation

Energy propagating in the form of combined, oscillating electric and magnetic fields often referred to by names specific to the different wavelength bands such as gamma rays, x-rays, ultraviolet light, visible light, infrared radiation, radio waves, and microwaves.

false-color infrared

A color image produced using infrared sensitive film or a computer image processed to produce a similar result usually with near-infrared wavelengths appearing red, red wavelengths appearing green, and green wavelengths appearing blue.

home page

A World Wide Web page (or address) that is made available for initial access through Web searches to a set of material or pages.

gravimetric sampling

A method of measurement in which samples are weighed.

inquiry-based approach

An approach to learning which emphasizes students asking questions, developing hypotheses, and designing a methodology to investigate issues or phenomena largely under their own direction.

IR

Infrared radiation.

light waves

Any form of light; the term waves is added to emphasize that light is characterized by its frequency or its wavelength and that light involves oscillations of electric and magnetic fields.

pH

A measure of the acid or base content of a water based on the concentration of hydrogen (H^+) ions. The measurement scale for pH is logarithmic with

$$pH = -\log [H^+]$$

where the square brackets denote concentration in number per cubic centimeter. Pure water and neutral solutions have a pH of 7; acid solutions have a pH lower than 7 (i.e. a hydrogen ion concentration greater than 10^{-7} ; basic solutions have a pH greater than 7.

sample sites

Locations where GLOBE measurements are taken only once.

species diversity

The number of different species living in a given area or found in a sample.

spectral pattern

A pattern which characterizes the amount of radiation at each wavelength which is reflected from or absorbed by an object, surface, or gas.

study sites

Locations where GLOBE measurements are taken repeatedly.